



## NEXT TO NECKLACE TOP

*by wool and beyond / elin berlin*

Sizes: XS (S, M, L, XL) 2XL, 3XL, 4XL, 5XL  
 Chest width (garment): 80, (85, 90, 95, 100), 110, 120, 130, 140 cm  
*For this garment I recommend an ease of 0-5 cm*

Gauge: 20 sts = 10 cm  
 Needles : 4 mm circular needles, 40 cm as well as 60-80 cm cable

Material: ca 150 (200, 200, 200, 200) 250, 250, 300, 300 g MC (main color)  
 Sandnes Line (50 g = 110 m)  
 or Svarta Fåret Cecilia (50 g = 110 m)  
 or Drops Belle (50 g = 120 m)  
**and** about 20 (25, 25, 25, 30) 30, 35, 35, 40 g CC (contrasting color)  
 Posh Yarn Kirsten Sock (100 g = 450 m)  
 ...or yarn that gives the same gauge!

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## **ABOUT THE PATTERN:**

Next To Necklace Top is a striped tank top worked from the bottom up. First you make a garter edge at the bottom, and then you continue to work the body in the round while you make the stripes. Once you've finished the body your work is divided into front and back by binding off the sts for the bottom of the armholes, and from there on the pieces are worked separately back and forth. You shape the front and the back with decreases along the armholes as well as the neckline, before you finally sew the shoulders together using kitchener stitch. After that you pick up and knit sts along the neckline where you make a latvian braid that's finished with a rolled hem. Along the armholes you also pick up and knit sts to create a garter edge to match the bottom.

Always knit a swatch to check your gauge before starting your work! I also recommend that you wash your swatch to see how the material reacts as well as how your gauge might change.

## **TECHNIQUES:**

**Latvian braid:** <https://www.garnstudio.com/video.php?lang=se&id=1019>

**Kitchener stitch:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W7i5JwEReW0>

## **ABBREVIATIONS:**

MC = mail color

CC = contrasting color

st/s = stitch/es

rnd/s = round/s

k = knit

p = purl

k2tog = knit the next 2 sts together

ssk = slip 1 st knit wise, slip the next st knit wise, put the 2 sts back on left needle and k2tog tbl

tbl = through the back loop

RS = right side

WS = wrong side

## INSTRUCTIONS:

### BODY:

Use MC and the recommended sz 4 mm needles with the longer cable.

Cast on 160 (170, 180, 190, 200) 220, 240, 260, 280 sts.

Place a marker to mark the beginning/end of the round, and begin to work in the round.

First you'll make the garter edge, like this:

Rnd 1: Purl until end of rnd.

Rnd 2: Knit until end of rnd.

Repeat rnd 1-2 two more times.

Knit 7 rnds.

Now you'll begin making the stripes using CC (contrasting color), like this:

Rnd 1 (CC): Purl until end of rnd.

Rnd 2-3 (CC): Knit until end of rnd.

Rnd 4 (MC): Purl until end of rnd.

Rnd 5-12 (MC): Knit until end of rnd.

Repeat rnd 1-12 until you have a total of 7 stripes = about 28 cm, or as many as you want to get the desired length of your body. **NOTE! Finish with 7 (instead of 8) rnds in MC after the last stripe!**

On the next rnd you'll use MC and divide your work into front and back by binding off the sts for the armholes, like this: bind off 5 (6, 6, 7, 7) 8, 9, 9, 10 sts, knit 70 (73, 78, 81, 86) 94, 102, 112, 120 sts, bind off 10 (12, 12, 14, 14) 16, 18, 18, 20 sts, knit 70 (73, 78, 81, 86) 94, 102, 112, 120 sts, bind off the last 5 (6, 6, 7, 7) 8, 9, 9, 10 sts. Break the yarn.

The sts for the front are now put on hold, while you work on the back. You can either leave them on the cable, or put them on a stitch wire or piece of scrap yarn.

### THE BACK:

*(Start off by placing a marker in the center of the back, which you'll later use as a measuring guide).*

You'll now work the back piece back and forth with stripes, while you shape the armholes along both sides. The first and the last st on every row is always knitted to create an edge that's easy to pick up and knit sts along later.

Row 1 (RS/CC): k2, bind off the 1st st, purl until you have 1 st left, k1.

Row 2 (WS/CC): k2, bind off the 1st st, purl until you have 1 st left, k1.

Row 3 (RS/CC): k2, bind off the 1st st, knit until end of row.

Row 4 (WS/MC): k2, bind off the 1st st, knit until end of row.

Row 5 (RS/MC): k2, bind off the 1st st, knit until end of row.

Row 6 (WS/MC): k2, bind off the 1st st, purl until you have 1 st left, k1.

Repeat row 5-6 three more times = a total of 9 rows in MC.

Work according to the instructions above until you have 58 (61, 62, 64, 66) 68, 70, 72, 74 sts left.

Then continue to work the same way, but without binding off the 1st st (no decreases) until you have a total of 5 (5, 5, 5, 5) 6, 6, 6, 6 stripes from the marker you placed in the center of the back sts.

Continue to work in stockinette using only MC (no stripes) until your work measures about 21 (21.5, 22, 22.5, 23) 23, 23.5, 24, 24.5 cm from the marker.

On the next row from the RS you'll split your work into right and left shoulder by binding off the center sts of the back (to create the neckline), like this: knit 14 (14, 15, 15, 16) 16, 16, 17, 17 sts, bind off 30 (33, 32, 33, 32) 34, 36, 38, 40 sts, knit 14 (14, 15, 15, 16) 16, 16, 17, 17 sts.

#### *BACK LEFT SHOULDER:*

The back left shoulder is now worked back and forth while you shape the neckline using decreases along the right side (from the RS), like this:

Row 1 (WS): k1, purl until you have 1 st left, k1.

Row 2 (RS): k2, bind off the 1st st, knit until end of row.

Repeat row 1-2 until you have 12 (12, 13, 13, 14) 14, 14, 15, 15 sts left.

The sts for the back left shoulder are now put on hold. You can either leave them on the cable, or put them on a stitch wire or piece of scrap yarn.

#### *BACK RIGHT SHOULDER:*

The back right shoulder is now worked back and forth while you shape the neckline using decreases along the left side (from the WS), like this:

Row 1 (RS): Knit until end of row.

Row 2 (WS): k2, bind off the 1st st, purl until you have 1 st left, k1.

Repeat row 1-2 until you have 12 (12, 13, 13, 14) 14, 14, 15, 15 sts left.

The sts for the back right shoulder are now put on hold. You can either leave them on the cable, or put them on a stitch wire or piece of scrap yarn.

#### *THE FRONT:*

*(Start off by placing a marker in the center of the back, which you'll later use as a measuring guide).*

You'll now work the front piece back and forth with stripes, while you shape the armholes along both sides, like this:

Row 1 (RS/CC): k2, bind off the 1st st, purl until you have 1 st left, k1.

Row 2 (WS/CC): k2, bind off the 1st st, purl until you have 1 st left, k1.

Row 3 (RS/CC): k2, bind off the 1st st, knit until end of row.

Row 4 (WS/MC): k2, bind off the 1st st, knit until end of row.

Row 5 (RS/MC): k2, bind off the 1st st, knit until end of row.

Row 6 (WS/MC): k2, bind off the 1st st, purl until you have 1 st left, k1.

Row 7 (RS/MC): k2, ssk, knit until you have 4 sts left, k2tog, k2.

Row 8 (WS/MC): k2, purl until you have 1 st left, k1.

Repeat row 7-8 two more times = a total of 9 rows in MC.

Work according to the instructions above until you have 58 (61, 62, 64, 66) 68, 70, 72, 74 sts left. Then continue to work the same way, but without decreases until you have a total of 3 stripes from the marker you placed in the center of the front sts. Continue to work in stockinette using only MC (no stripes) until your work measures about 12 (12.5, 13, 13.5, 13.5) 13.5, 13.5, 14, 14.5 cm from the marker.

On the next row from the RS you'll split your work into right and left shoulder by binding off the center sts of the front (to create the neckline), like this: knit 17 (17, 18, 18, 19) 19, 19, 20, 20 sts, bind off 24 (27, 26, 27, 26) 28, 30, 32, 34 sts, knit 17 (17, 18, 18, 19) 19, 19, 20, 20 sts.

### *FRONT RIGHT SHOULDER:*

The front right shoulder is now worked back and forth in MC while you shape the neckline using decreases along the right side (from the RS), like this:

Row 1 (WS): k1, purl until you have 1 st left, k1.

Row 2 (RS): k2, ssk, knit until end of row.

Repeat row 1-2 until you have 12 (12, 13, 13, 14) 14, 14, 15, 15 sts left.

Then continue to work in stockinette stitch without decreases until your work measures about 23 (23.5, 24, 24.5, 25) 25, 25.5, 26, 26.5 cm from the marker. Sew the front right shoulder together with the back right shoulder using kitchener stitch.

### *FRONT LEFT SHOULDER:*

The front left shoulder is now worked back and forth in MC, starting from the WS, while you shape the neckline using decreases along the left side (from the RS), like this:

Row 1 (WS): k1, purl until you have 1 st left, k1.

Row 2 (RS): knit until you have 4 sts left, k2tog, k2.

Repeat row 1-2 until you have 12 (12, 13, 13, 14) 14, 14, 15, 15 sts left.

Then continue to work in stockinette stitch without decreases until your work measures about 23 (23.5, 24, 24.5, 25) 25, 25.5, 26, 26.5 cm from the marker. Sew the front left shoulder together with the back left shoulder using kitchener stitch.

### *NECKLINE:*

*(Change to the shorter cable)*

Use MC and start at the top right shoulder, slightly towards the back, and pick up and knit sts all along the neckline, like this: \*pick up and knit along 3 sts, skip 1 st\* repeat \*-\* until you reach the point where you started to pick up sts. Make sure that you pick up an even amount of sts! Place a marker to mark the beginning/end of the rnd.

Now you'll make the latvian braid, like this:

Rnd 1: \*k1tbl in MC, k1tbl in CC\* repeat \*-\* until end of rnd.

Rnd 2: Start off with both of the yarns (MC and CC) in front of your work (towards you). \*p1 in MC. Put the MC yarn back onto the front of your work and pull the CC yarn under the MC yarn and towards the back of your work. p1 in CC. Put the CC yarn back onto the front of your work and pull the MC yarn under the CC yarn and towards the back of your work\*. Repeat \*-\* by alternating your yarns and purling. Remember to always bring the yarn UNDER the yarn that you last worked with.

Row 3: Work as row 2, but instead of bringing the yarn under you'll now always bring the yarn OVER the yarn that you last worked with.

Break the CC-yarn. Knit 5 rows of stockinette stitch in MC. Bind off loosely and let the edge roll.

### *ARMHOLE:*

Next you'll make a garter edge around the armholes. Use MC and the shorter cable.

Start at the center of the sts you previously bound off for the armholes. Pick up and knit sts all along the armhole, like this: \*pick up and knit along 3 sts, skip 1 st\* repeat \*-\* until you reach the point where you started to pick up sts. Place a marker to mark the beginning/end of the rnd. Make a note about how many sts you picked up so that you'll pick up the same amount for the other armhole.

Rnd 1: Knit tbl until end of rnd.

Rnd 2: Purl until end of rnd.

Rnd 3: Knit until end of rnd.

Rnd 4: Purl until end of rnd.

Bind off all sts.

Pick up and knit the same amount of sts along the other armhole and make a garter edge the same way.